

What is claimed is:

1. (original) A switching device with a rotatably mounted operating element (10) and an eccentric element (12) for translating a rotational displacement (14) of the operating element (10) into a translatory displacement (16) of a switching element (18), in particular a selector shaft of a hand-held power tool, wherein  
a shape of the eccentric element (12) differs significantly from that of a rod.
2. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 1, wherein  
a cross section of the eccentric element (12) differs significantly from a circular shape.
3. (currently amended) The switching device as recited in ~~one of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein  
a cross-sectional dimension (20) of the eccentric element (12) is in the order of magnitude of an eccentricity (22) of the eccentric element (12).
4. (currently amended) A switching device as recited in ~~one of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein  
the eccentric element (12) has a guide surface (24, 26) provided to convert the rotational displacement (14) using a contact point (28, 30) that travels on the guide surface (24, 26) during the rotational displacement (14).
5. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 4, wherein  
the guide surface (24, 26) is designed according to a specified dependency between an angle of rotation (32) of the operating element (10) and an eccentricity (22) of the contact point (28, 30).
6. (original) The switching device as recited, ~~at the least~~, in Claim 4, wherein

the guide surface (24) is designed significantly parabolic in shape.

7. (currently amended) The switching device as recited in ~~one of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein

the eccentric element (12) includes at least two guide surfaces (24, 26).

8. (original) The switching device as recited, at the least, in Claim 4, wherein

an eccentricity (22) of the contact point (28) varies by at least 10% during a switching motion.

9. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 8, wherein

an eccentricity (22) of the contact point (28) varies by at least 50 % during a switching motion.

10. (currently amended) The switching device as recited in ~~one of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1, characterized by a two-legged shift spring (34) which, in at least one operating configuration, contacts the eccentric element (12) at two contact points (28, 30).

11. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 10, wherein,

in at least one operating configuration, the two-legged shift spring (34) is preloaded by the eccentric element (12).

12. (currently amended) A hand-held power tool with a switching device as recited in ~~one of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1.

13. (original) An eccentric element (12) for translating a rotational displacement (14) of an operating element (10) of a hand-held power tool into a translatory displacement (16) of a switching element (18) of the hand-held power tool, wherein

a shape of the eccentric element (12) differs significantly from that of a rod.